Country-wise details of export of coffee is available in the Foreign Trade Statistics of India published by DGCI&S, copies of which are available in the Parliament Library.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. A target of 1,50,000 tonnes has been fixed for export of coffee during 1997-98.

(d) For boosting export of coffee, Coffee Board is focussing on targeted import markets like USA, Japan, Russia and Middle East countries. Coffee Board will also participate in selected food fairs/exhibitions abroad in active association with exporters, release advertisements on unique features of Indian coffee in selected overseas trade journals, sponsor trade delegations/invite delegations of roasters from each of the target markets to India, arrange service of Indian Coffee abroad through our Embassies, distribute gift packets of Indian coffee through Indian Embassies on special occasions and festivals, promote logo for Indian coffee and publish and distribute literature on Indian coffee.

Import of articles Reserved for SSI

5421. SHRI SURENDRA YADAV:

JUSTICE GUMAN MAL LODHA:

Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the recent announcement of the Government giving facilities for the import of 542 articles in the country has adversely affected Indian industries;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the number of articles included in the above list which are in daily use of common consumer and which are reserved for small scale sector; and

(d) whether the Government have provided incentives to the industrial units which are producing above articles so that they can successfully compete with the imported articles?

THE MINISTER OF INDUSTRY (SHRI MURASOLI MARAN): (a) and (b) The Export-Import Policy for 1997-98 has put 542 additional items under the Open General Licence (OGL) and Special Import Licence (SIL) for import. This is part of the Government's policy of economic liberalisation for making our industries more competitive.

(c) Of the 542 items put in OGL, SIL only 5 items (category) are reserved for small scale sector of which 3 are of daily/common use.

(d) Several incentives and concessions are provided to the small scale industries including those manufacturing the above items so as to improve the competitiveness of the small scale sector within the overall economy of the country. These include excise concession, priority sector lending, technology and extension support services and reservation of SSI products and price preference for SSI products in the Government procurement.

Textiles Mills, Kanpur

5422. SHRI JAGAT VIR SINGH DRONA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to close down BIC textile mills, Kanpur;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor; and

(c) the steps taken to revive these mills?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILE (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (c) BIC and its cotton subsidiaries viz. Elgin Mills Co. Ltd. and Cawnpore Textiles Ltd. have been ordered to be wound up by the BIFR. The appeals of these companies against the winding up orders are pending before the AAIFR. Pending a final decision by the AAIFR, Government are providing funds for payment of wages, salaries and bonus to the workers/employees of BIC and its subsidiaries.

[English]

All India Powerloom Board

5423. SHRI CHINTAMAN WANAGA: Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to set up an All India Powerloom Board/Corporation;

(b) if so, the details thereof particularly its composition and terms of reference; and

(c) by when it is likely to be set up?

THE MINISTER OF TEXTILES (SHRI R.L. JALAPPA): (a) to (c) The Government have already set up an All India Powerloom Board vide Resolution No. 1/12/96-W&P dated 21st April, 1997 for a period of two years. The Board will advise the Government generally on matters concerning the healthy development of powerlooms within the power operated weaving sector, including measures to be taken to achieve better productivity, increased efficiency, improve welfare of workers and locational dispersal of powerlooms. A Statement showing the composition of the Board is attached.

Statement

The All India Powerloom Board consist of the following members:

CHAIRMAN

1. Minister of Textiles, Government of India, New Delhi.

VICE CHAIRMAN

2. Secretary, Ministry of Textiles, Government of India.

OFFICIAL MEMBERS

3. Additional Secretary & Financial Adviser, Ministry of Textiles, New Delhi.